

Mecklenburg County Youth Sports

Fall 2020 Youth Baseball

Tee Ball (5-6 years) Condensed Rules Sheet

Note: Score is NOT kept. Official time is kept by Park & Rec. staff.

Field:

- Bases -45', marked line at halfway point
- Pitcher's Mound – 36', 8' circle around
- Outfield – 8 'behind each base
- "In Play" Arch – 3 'in front of the plate (measured from rear point of home plate down each baseline)

Balls/Bats:

- Ball – RIF #1 Safety Ball (see attached acceptable list)
- Bat – can't exceed 2 5/8 inches in diameter

Roster/Forfeits/Grace Period:

- Min 4/Max 8
- There are no forfeits or grace period. The games begin with those players present at scheduled game time.
- Late arriving players enter the game on offense at the end of the batting order and on defense when their team is fielding.

Game Length:

- Min 3 complete innings or 55-minute max. time limit.
- Staff officials' discretion will determine game ending time as time limit approaches

Offense:

- Batters wear **sanitized** helmets and must remain in the batter's box while batting
- **Batters strongly encouraged to wear batting gloves on both hands when batting**
- Each player present bats in each inning
- 5 attempts to hit the ball before making an out (Coaches must assist players on the fifth swing)
- Balls hit must travel beyond the 3 ft. "in play" Arch to be fair
- It is permissible to pull the T from home plate so runners may touch home when running the bases (Coaches discretion)
- Play begins when the ump or coach shows the ball to the defense and places it on the batters T
- **Play stopped** when: 1) infield ball is possessed by a defensive player and/or 2) outfield ball is possessed by a defensive player in the infield (ump's discretion). "Call for time" by defensive players indicated by player holding the ball above their head with arm extended.
- 1 verbal warning (given to both teams) for throwing/slinging the bat; automatic out for all following infractions.

- No stealing; contact with base until ball has been hit.
- One base advancement for balls thrown out of field of play. Only 1 overthrow allowed per play. Halfway markers to determine runner advancement during stoppages in play *ump's discretion)

Defense:

- **Infield** – pitcher/first base/second base/shortstop/third base (5 spots). Hold position until the ball is hit.
- **Outfield** – **left, center and right fielders (3 spots)**. Hold position until the ball is hit.
- **Players rotated** – to promote opportunity for skill development.
- **Sharing of fielding equipment (gloves) strictly prohibited**

Must Play:

*Coaches should play all players at all times. No player should be sitting on the bench unless of injury

*Defensive players should be rotated

Re-entry:

- The batting order must stay the same throughout the game, but players are allowed to change defensive positions.

Coaches:

- Each team is allowed a maximum of 3 coaches – **it is mandatory that this includes at least one Coach responsible for equipment and player sanitation (i.e. wiping down of bats and batting helmets before each use, sanitizing players' hands before his/her at bats if he/she is not wearing batting gloves) per COVID-19 safety guidelines.**
- Coach ID badges required for all approved volunteer bench personnel.
- Base Coaches remain in coach's box; Hitting Coach (each team must have a Hitting Coach to assist their players) must remain off the field of play once the ball is put into play.
- **On defense – coaches permitted on field for instruction, must remain out of base paths and not interfere with play. Maintain 6 feet social distancing from all players as much as possible.**